

BRIEFING

CELEBRATING • OUR • SESQUICENTENNIAL



APRIL 2008

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SPRING CLEANING TIME

CITYWIDE GARAGE SALES

HERE ARE THREE GREAT WAYS to clean up this spring: Set items out for the Curbside Cleanup, *see page 4*; donate usable items to charitable organizations; or sell your unwanted treasures at the Citywide Garage Sales, sponsored by Bloomington Optimist Youth Foundation, Thursday -

Saturday, May 29 - 31. Registration is \$20 and includes a yard sign, advertising and individual listing in the official registry of sale addresses. For more information, call Jim Meyers at 952-831-3798.

Download forms on the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Garage sale.

YOUTH SERVICE DAYS OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER

HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATES several youth service opportunities throughout April. Projects include tree planting, park and street cleanup, and helping senior citizens. Youth and youth groups who volunteer for City-sponsored programs will be invited to attend the Mayor's Volunteer Breakfast. For more information, call Human Services Coordinator Kerry Stone at 952-563-8737, 952-563-4957 V/TYY, or e-mail kstone@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

PROTECT YOURSELF BE WARY OF DOOR-TO-DOOR PEDDLERS

CITY CODE requires all solicitors to carry a City-issued license

and identification card when soliciting door-to-door. The code also states that solicitors must not operate between 8 p.m. and 9 a.m., enter a property with a posted "No Solicitation" or similar sign, or use aggressive sales techniques.

MUSIC AT THE OLD MET STADIUM

WHEN MOST PEOPLE think back to the days when the old Metropolitan Stadium existed, their memories are of hot dogs and home runs, winning touchdowns and goals scored. Yet, resident Charles Wood remembers music. A former opera singer, Wood sang the national anthem at the start of every Vikings football game for more than 17 years. At seven games a year that translates to roughly 120 performances.

"I loved singing the national anthem," said Wood. "I have a lot of great memories."

Taking a break from singing, Wood also had the opportunity to direct the Olson Jr. High Choir during a halftime show in 1974, *see photo right*. This was a special occasion for Wood, as the Viking Band and the St. Louis Parkettes were the usual halftime entertainment.

The Vikings played their last game at Metropolitan Stadium against the Kansas City Chiefs on December 20, 1981.

BLOOMINGTON - YESTERDAY



Photo courtesy of Doug McKilligan.

OLD TOWN HALL DEDICATION CELEBRATE BLOOMINGTON'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

OLD TOWN HALL, on the corner of Penn Avenue and Old Shakopee Road, was recently restored inside and out to its original 1892 appearance. It will be dedicated in a special Sesquicentennial ceremony Sunday, May 11, 1 - 4 p.m. This will be the first opportunity for the public to see the newly renovated building. The event also marks the anniversary of the day the Town of Bloomington was organized. Event highlights include: costumed reenactors, historical site tours, pioneer fair, crafts, music, performance by the Gallery Players, an ice cream social and much more.

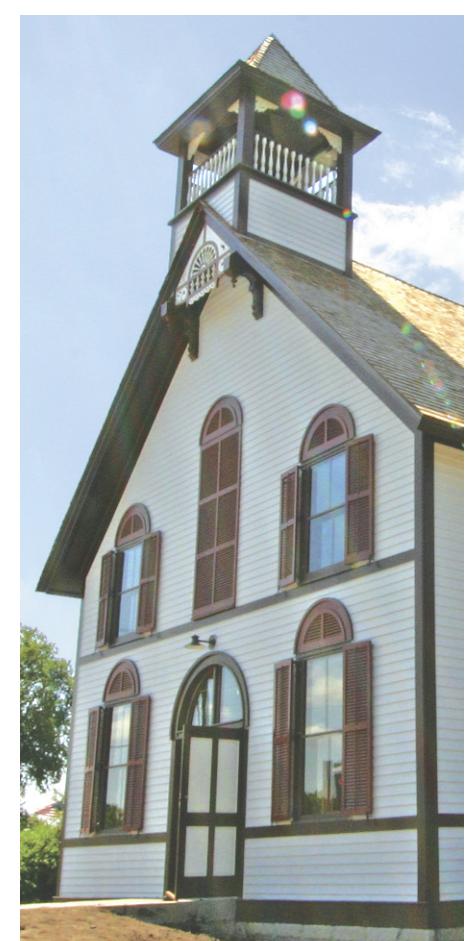
"The completion of the restoration work on Old Town Hall marks the beginning of a new and vital chapter in the building's history," Parks and Recreation Supervisor Mark Morrison said. "This project has shown what great

things can happen when cities and citizen groups work together toward a common goal."

Old Town Hall is in a historic part of the city and one of the last old town halls in the metropolitan area, according to Morrison. In fact, it was recently mentioned in *American Town and County* magazine in an article praising the restoration project.

The goal of the restoration effort was to preserve Bloomington's past and present identity and to ensure that standards for historical preservation were maintained. The exterior restoration, including a new parking lot and landscaping, was completed in January. The interior renovation is scheduled for completion in late April 2008. Interior improvements include new hardwood floors, a new ceiling, installation of modern lighting, tile flooring in the basement, an accessible bathroom and a new security system.

The Bloomington Historical Society has signed a five-year lease to use the building as a historical museum. The Society raised \$140,000 toward the exterior restoration, in part by selling engraved bricks. The engraved bricks will be added to a brick paver patio on the south side of the building. Additional



bricks are available for sale until September 15. Visit www.bloomingtonhistoricalsociety.org for details.

For information on the restoration project, call Recreation Supervisor Mark Morrison at 952-563-8693. For more information on Sesquicentennial events visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us or call Communications Administrator Janine Hill at 952-563-8819.



Photo courtesy Frank J. Pahl family.

BLOOMINGTON CENTURY FAMILIES

IF YOUR FAMILY lineage in Bloomington dates back 100 years or more, we want to hear from you! Submit photos and stories to City of Bloomington Communications, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431, call Communications Administrator Janine Hill at 952-563-8819 or visit the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us.



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
1800 WEST OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD
BLOOMINGTON MN 55431-3027

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CREATING A SUSTAINABLE BLOOMINGTON

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

By Mayor Gene Winstead

THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON has always strived to be a leader in environmental consciousness, energy conservation and sustainable objectives. Bloomington's early leaders did a lot to guard our valuable resources, such as protecting the marshes along Nine Mile Creek and in the Minnesota River Valley and setting aside one third of the city for open space. However, there is still much that can be done, using new technology and resident input to guide the way.

Open spaces

Early efforts preserved one third of the community as parks and open space, protecting important rivers, bluffs, lakes, ponds and wetlands from development.

Walking and biking trails have played a vital role in connecting businesses and residential areas to our open spaces and making commuting more enjoyable. As Bloomington develops and changes, our trails will become even more valuable to residents, ultimately making the city a healthier, more desirable place to live, work and visit. The City is working to improve the trail system. See article below.



Mixed-use development

A sustainable future is not only about green spaces, but developed spaces. Creating more density in already developed areas protects open spaces from development. Research shows that the most sustainable form of living is a mixture of land uses that allows people to live, work and play at a density that best supports public transit, particularly electrically powered rail transit.

Striving to be less energy dependent, the City has provided leadership through strategic planning, land use and financial capability, and by increasing development in proximity to major transportation facilities for the past few decades.

The idea of concentrating development on land close to freeways is not new. It was proposed by early Bloomington leaders in the 1960s, who understood that if trips to these areas arrived and departed via freeways and arterial streets, residential neighborhoods farther from the freeways would be protected from traffic.

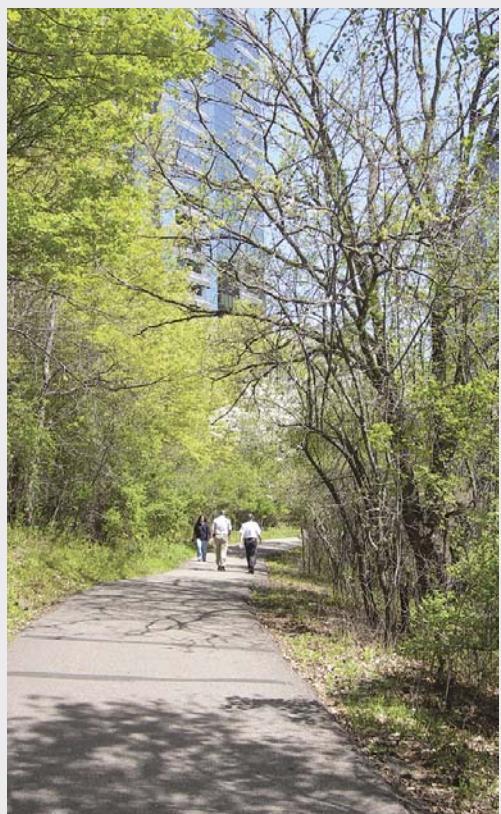
Sustainable building

The American Institute of Architects recently surveyed U.S. cities with populations greater than 50,000 about their green building programs and incentives. The survey, titled "Local Leaders in Sustainability: A Study of

Green Building Programs in our Nation's Communities," recognized the City of Bloomington as one of three Minnesota cities with a notable sustainability initiative.

Sustainable buildings are scored by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. Bloomington has a number of LEED-certified buildings, including Quality Bicycle Products and Reflections, the two, 17-story residential towers at Bloomington Central Station. United Properties' 8200 Norman Center Drive tower, currently under construction, is expected to be LEED-certified when completed. Ryan Companies' Marketpointe II is applying for LEED certification. In addition, some newer City facilities have been built with sustainability in mind. One example is Bloomington's Civic Plaza, which has low water flow restroom fixtures; a computerized energy management system; exterior light control and building materials that were manufactured within 500 miles of the site.

By making use of new technology, incorporating mixed-use development and sustainable building techniques, Bloomington is being a good steward of its resources and setting an example for other cities to follow.



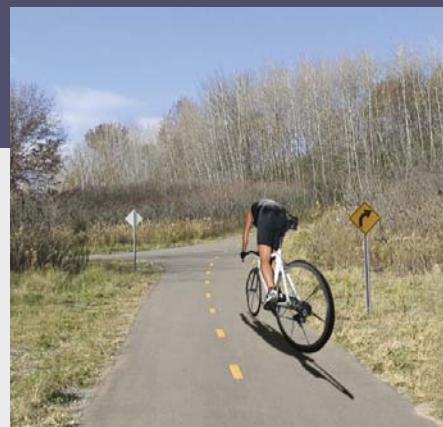
TRAIL SYSTEM NEARS COMPLETION

WALKWAYS PROVIDE GREATER ACCESS FOR PEDESTRIANS, CYCLISTS

A NEW, IMPROVED pedestrian and bike trail along East Bush Lake Road from 106th to 84th Street provides greater access for pedestrians and cyclists in the area.

The City used existing trails in the Hyland Lake Park Reserve and constructed new trails with the goal of providing a continuous walkway/bikeway system from 106th to 84th Street separated from traffic on East Bush Lake Road. To accommodate multiple users traveling in both directions, the trail was widened to

10 feet in most sections and an underpass was constructed north of 86th Street. Construction of the final segment, from the Forest Glen Trail leading to the Chalet intersection, is anticipated to be completed by summer 2008. Upon completion, the walkway/bikeway will provide non-motorized access between the various residential and office developments in the area to Hyland Lake Park Reserve, Bush Lake Beach, Richardson Nature Preserve, Forest Glen Trail and Lake Normandale. The trail segments



between 105th Street and the Forest Glen Trail area are now open for use.

For more information, call Engineering at 952-563-4914 or 952-563-4865.

BRIEFING

Volume 16, Number 2

The Briefing, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to our residents and businesses. Direct comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer disk to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd., Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8819; TTY 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-MAIL jhill@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

Web site: www.ci.bloomington.mn.us

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The City of Bloomington complies with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. For more information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; (952)563-8733 (Voice); 952-563-8740 (TTY).

Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or electronic format.

FOR THE HOMEOWNER

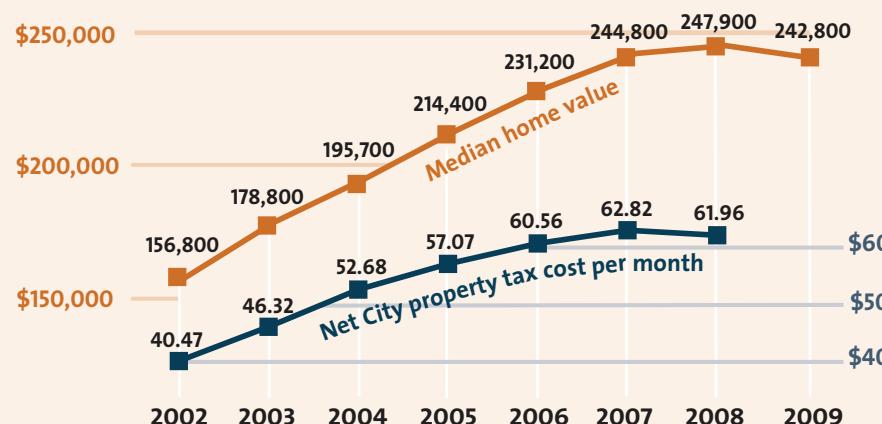
UNDERSTANDING PROPERTY VALUES AND TAXES

HOME VALUES in Bloomington have steadily increased for years. However, recent housing market activity has led to a decline in the median home value. Even with this price correction, there has been a dramatic overall increase in home values over the past decade.

2008 Hennepin County Property Tax Statements

In early March, Hennepin County mailed out tax statements for 2008, which are based on a property's estimated market value as of January 2, 2007. In accordance with state law, this 2007 value reflected sales occurring from October 2005 to September 2006. Consequently, when you pay your 2008 property tax bill, the valuation it is based on is already as much as two years old, and does not reflect the recent housing market correction. More recent sales activity is reflected in your 2008 market value.

2002 - 2008 MEDIAN HOME VALUE AND CITY PROPERTY TAX COST



City of Bloomington 2008 Market Value Notices (for 2009 taxes)

The City of Bloomington recently mailed market value notices for January 2, 2008, which are determined by analyzing home sales that occurred from October 2006 to September 2007 and will be used in calculating property taxes payable in 2009. Home sales

occurring after September 2007 will be reflected in the 2009 assessment. This approach to property values and taxes is mandated by law.

For more information, visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Property taxes, or contact Chief Residential Appraiser Mark Anderson at 952-563-8706.



AS THE SEASON CHANGE, many people look for a convenient place to store their motor and recreational vehicles, snow blowers and other equipment. Before going out and purchasing a fabric cover, carport or canopy for storage, residents should keep in mind the following guidelines established by the City Code.

KEEPING UP TO CODE

GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW FOR PARKING, TENTS AND CANOPIES

AS THE SEASON CHANGE, many people look for a convenient

- Tents and canopies shall not be used for more than 25 days per year on a site and must be set back at least 10 feet from all property lines.
- Permits are required for tents more than 200 square feet and for canopies more than 400 square feet. A canopy is a roof without sides; a tent has fabric side curtains. Fire Marshal review of the proposed tent or canopy is part of the permit process. For more information, call Fire Prevention at 952-563-8933.

- In addition, parking vehicles on unpaved areas of a lot is not permitted. Vehicles parked on yards may leak oil and other fluids that may flow into storm sewers and contaminate the water supply. Vehicles parked on lawns also ruin landscaping, undermining neighborhood attractiveness. Parking must be on an approved surface area, which means one constructed with concrete, asphalt or driveway pavers.

For more information, call Environmental Health at 952-563-8934.

BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME THIS SPRING, PLANT A TREE

CITY TREE SALE TO TAKE PLACE IN MAY

EACH YEAR, the City plants trees in parks and other public areas to ensure that Bloomington's urban forest continues to be one of the community's treasures. The City has planted more than 1,000 trees over the last few years.

Most of the 900 diseased elm and oak trees marked for removal last year were located on residential lots. To increase the number of trees on private properties, Park Maintenance will hold a public tree sale.

Based on last year's sales of 280 trees, 300 trees will be for sale this spring. Species of trees available include: *Autumn Blaze Red Maple*, *Hackberry*, *Imperial Honey Locust*, *Northwoods Red Maple*, *Prairie Fire Crabapple* and *Snowdrift Crabapple*. Orders will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

To download the form and learn more about the trees, visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Tree sale. For more information, call the Maintenance Division at 952-563-8760.

TREE ORDER FORM

Bloomington residents only. Crabapple trees come in pots; all other trees are bare root. All trees are one-and-a-quarter to two inches in diameter and cost \$50 each.

Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____

Fill in number of each tree type desired. Maximum 5 trees total per household, \$50 each. Check must accompany order.

<input type="checkbox"/> Autumn Blaze Red Maple	<input type="checkbox"/> Hackberry
<input type="checkbox"/> Imperial Honey Locust	<input type="checkbox"/> Northwoods Red Maple
<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Fire Crabapple	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowdrift Crabapple
Total trees _____	X \$50 ea. = \$ _____

Pick up trees at 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road on Saturday, May 3, 9 - 11 a.m.

Send check and form to City of Bloomington, Park Maintenance,
1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027.



AROUND THE CITY

CLARK ARNESON

ACCEPTS POSITION AS BLAINE CITY MANAGER



AFTER MORE THAN 20 YEARS of dedicated service, Assistant City Manager Clark Arneson said goodbye to the City and accepted a position as Blaine city manager.

Arneson, who began his career with the City of Bloomington Port Authority Administration in 1987, became planning and economic development manager in November 1993. Arneson was promoted to assistant city manager in December 2004.

"I have really appreciated the professionalism of all the elected and appointed City officials and staff," said Arneson. "One unique aspect of working for the City of Bloomington is the opportunity to work on a wide variety of significant projects."

During his career, Arneson was involved in many important development projects in Bloomington, including the successful construction of Civic Plaza. He was also instrumental in Bloomington's Strategic Planning initiative, *Bloomington 2025*.

In charge of Airport South development for the City, Arneson's accomplishments include planning for Mall of America Phase II and the initial phases of Bloomington Central Station, a \$700 million transit-oriented development project, the 28th Avenue park-and-ride deck and the \$24 million light-rail transit park-and-ride deck.

ASK THE CITY

A VALUABLE ONLINE RESOURCE



ASK THE CITY, the new customer service system introduced in February, is already seeing an increase in the number of residents going online to use the system. If you haven't already tried *Ask the City*, it's easy to start. Click on the *Ask the City* icon on the City's Web site. Once online, it is possible to search for answers, submit questions and start a "ticket" for a service request. A service request may be anything from fixing a pothole to investigating a noise complaint. *Ask the City* is also accessible by phone at 952-563-8700, or in person through employees of the City.

For more information, call Communications Administrator Janine Hill at 952-563-8819.

TOWARD • A • MORE • SUSTAINABLE • FUTURE

GET READY TO CLEAN!

- Set materials at the curb before 7 a.m. on your curbside pickup day.
- Trucks will go through only once on your scheduled day. If you miss the curbside pickup, call your trash hauler who will pick up your refuse for a fee.
- Seniors or residents who are disabled: Unable to handle the materials? Contact your Neighborhood Watch block captains – or call the Human Services Help Line in advance for volunteer availability, 952-563-4957 V/TTY.

QUESTIONS?

CALL 952-563-8750.

2008 CURBSIDE CLEANUP SCHEDULE

Bloomington is divided into five collection areas. This year's cleanup will go from the east to the west.

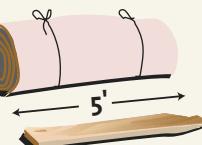
Saturday, April 12	East boundary to Portland
Saturday, April 19	Portland to Penn
Saturday, April 26	Penn to France
Saturday, May 3	France to Normandale
Saturday, May 17	Normandale to west boundary

Sell usable items during the Citywide Garage Sales. See page 1.

ACCEPTED AT THE CURB

Please be considerate; haulers can not spend more than a few minutes at each house in order to complete the routes.

- General junk:** Boxed, bagged or bundled – under 100 pounds per item.
- Appliances:** Water heaters, microwaves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, stoves, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, freezers, etc. Limit TWO appliances per house. **No need to call ahead. NO electronics.**
- Carpets/pads:** Rolled and securely tied. Under five feet long and one foot in diameter – larger rolls are hard to handle.
- Larger scrap metal ONLY:** Office desks, clothesline poles and swing sets are examples. Remove wood, rubber, cement and all nonmetal materials, including gas from lawnmowers. NO cast iron tubs or items over 150 pounds. Take items that fit into an automobile to the Hennepin County Problem Waste Facility for recycling. *See box below.*
- Unusable furniture:** Disassemble hideaway sofa beds so they cannot open during handling.
- Mattresses/box springs:**
 - Construction materials, lumber, windows and doors:** Pile limited to what fits in ONE level standard-size pickup truck. Lumber stacked and no longer than five feet. Bend nails.
- NO railroad ties. NO contractor materials.
- BUNDLED brush:** Branches smaller than four inches in diameter and five feet in length. Includes buckthorn.



NO railroad ties. NO contractor materials.

PREVENT ILLEGAL DUMPING AND PROTECT AIR QUALITY

Window air conditioners and dehumidifiers set out at the curb are targets for people who take copper wire from appliances to sell. It is illegal to cut the copper wire in appliances because it releases toxic pollutants, such as Freon, into the air. To help prevent illegal dumping and protect air quality, do not set out smaller appliances that contain Freon until 7 a.m. on the day of your pickup. For more information, call 952-563-8751.

OPTIONS FOR ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED AT THE CURB

HENNEPIN COUNTY PROBLEM WASTE AND RECYCLING FACILITY

1400 West 96th Street, 612-348-3777

TU, TH, F	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
W	10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
SA	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Hazardous waste:** Paints, motor oil, solvents and other household chemicals.
- Tires and batteries.**
- Electronics:** TVs, VCRs, computers, monitors, stereos and cordless phones.
- Recyclable materials:** Plastic and glass bottles, cans and all paper.
- Gas-powered, refrigeration appliances:** Camper/other fridges, air conditioners – call ahead, 612-348-5832.
- Small scrap metal** that fits into a car trunk.
- Nonrefillable propane or butane cylinders.**



BURNSVILLE LANDFILL

952-890-3248

- Concrete, bricks.
- Porcelain: Tubs, sinks, toilets.
- Shingles.

NSP COMPOSTING

Burnsville, 952-736-1915

- Leaves, grass clippings, sod.
- Stumps, logs.

Earth Action Heroes protect the earth. Whether it's saving energy or guarding Bloomington's precious natural resources, these individuals are making a difference. Here are your neighbors in action ...

Ka-Pow

EARTH ACTION HERO
ROBIN'S RAIN GARDEN

DO YOU NEED to update your landscaping? Do you like to garden? Are you tired of rainwater forming puddles in your driveway and yard? If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, you may want to do what Bloomington resident Robin Rust did and plant your own rain garden.

Rain gardens are shallow depressions (at least 12 inches deep), commonly placed in low areas of a landscape and planted with native wildflowers and shrubs. The difference between a rain garden and a conventional garden lies in the types of plants used.

"We chose plants with deep root systems that will draw water in as it sinks to the ground," said Robin. "Some of the plants in our garden include black-eyed susans, mugo pines, bergenias, Russian sage, hostas, columbine and bee balm. We also planted some tulips around the perimeter so we have color in the spring, while we wait for everything else to get growing."



Robin's daughter Claudia enjoys helping in the garden and making bouquets.

Rust's rain garden is not only attractive, but smart, because rain gardens replicate natural systems of drainage and retention by allowing water to penetrate soil and preventing common pollutants, such as fertilizers, pesticides, animal waste and sediment, from polluting water bodies.

"We started a rain garden because it's a nice landscaping feature, plus it's an ecologically responsible way of dealing with rainwater runoff," said Rust.

Planting a rain garden is a simple, effective way for residents to improve water quality, according to Bloomington Water Resources Specialist Bryan Gruidl.

"Considering the average yearly precipitation for Bloomington is roughly 29.4 inches, a standard rambler will create more than 28,000 gallons of runoff per year."

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, rainwater and storm runoff is the number one threat to our lakes, rivers and streams. Yet one rain garden can provide control for the majority of the annual rainwater runoff.

Creating a rain garden takes some time, but it's well worth the effort. With a little help from her family and friends, Rust was able to plant her rain garden in one Saturday. For more information, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Rain garden handout, or call Water Resources Specialist Bryan Gruidl at 952-563-4557.

THE COMMUTER CHALLENGE GOOD FOR YOU AND THE ENVIRONMENT

NOW THROUGH JUNE 30, take the Commuter Challenge and win great prizes. Pledge to take the bus or train, bicycle, walk or carpool to work at least once a week and you could win a laptop, iPod or digital camera. Groups of 10 or more can form a team and compete against other commuter teams for additional prizes. For information, go to www.494Corridor.org.

Bike/Walk to Work Week

Be sure to celebrate National Bike/Walk to Work

Week by riding your bike or walking to work,

Wednesday, May 14. Registered participants will be eligible for a free breakfast at various locations throughout the metro area. For more information or to register, visit www.bikewalkweek.org.



WOMEN'S FIRE SERVICE EXPO

ANNUAL EVENT ENCOURAGES WOMEN TO VOLUNTEER

THE THIRD ANNUAL Women's Fire Service Expo will be held Saturday, May 31, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. This is an all-day educational event for women who are interested in becoming firefighters. There is no cost for participants.

The Bloomington Fire Department currently has 13 female firefighters. The department has actively recruited female firefighters at the Women's Fire Service Expo and National Night Out, as

well as through open houses and fire prevention activities.

Bloomington Fire Inspector Laura McCarthy said female volunteer firefighters are always encouraged to apply.

"There are many rewards involved with being a volunteer firefighter," McCarthy said. "We are able to help the community, while developing lifelong friendships."



Bloomington firefighters Leslie Erickson, Beth Neitzel and Diane Purcell.

For more details and registration information, visit the North Star Women's Firefighters Association Web site at www.nswfa.org.

A HEALTHY BLOOMINGTON FOR ALL



PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

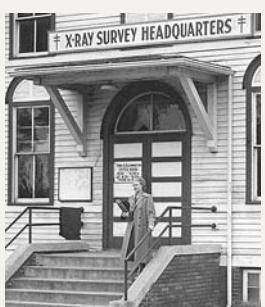
CELEBRATE YOUR HEALTH APRIL 7 - 13

IT USED to be that diseases from poor hygiene, nutrition and sanitation, poor maternal and infant health, and work hazards were at the forefront of public health in Bloomington. Yet with the advent of antibiotics, vaccinations and improved sanitation, these problems are almost obsolete. Today, chronic diseases, such as cardiovascular disease and cancer, are the new public health challenges.

Originally established in 1948 to provide school nursing services, Bloomington Public Health became a community-based health division in 1960. By the end of the twentieth century, public health had become a complex partnership between governmental and nongovernmental organizations, academia and community members.

Currently, Bloomington Public Health has many services and programs and maintains relationships with a number of groups in order to protect the health of all Bloomington's citizens.

For more information, visit the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Public Health, or call Public Health 952-563-8900.



HUMAN SERVICES RESOURCES

RESIDENT INPUT NEEDED

HUMAN SERVICES is exploring the possibility of providing in-home services and concierge service, as well as starting a social group for residents. If you are a resident age 50 or older, care about health, wellness, arts, and cultural issues, and want to stay active in your community, Human Services would like your input. For more information, call Human Services Coordinator Tracy Smith at 952-563-4955.

CANCER PREVENTION

APRIL IS CANCER CONTROL MONTH

ALTHOUGH MUCH has been learned about prevention, early detection and treatment, cancer still accounts for nearly one-quarter of deaths in the United States, exceeded only by heart disease.

For information on Public Health's cancer prevention programs, such as the breast and cervical cancer screenings at Sage Women's Clinic, call 952-563-8900.



BEST PRACTICES FOR CANCER PREVENTION:

1. Quit smoking.
2. Practice sun-safe habits.
3. Adopt a physically active lifestyle.
4. Limit alcohol consumption.
5. Get regular check-ups.
6. Perform a breast cancer self-exam on a regular basis.

PROTECTING OUR FURRY FRIENDS

DON'T FORGET TO LICENSE YOUR PET

THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON requires all dogs and cats, three months or older, to be licensed and vaccinated against rabies. The regulation of pets protects the health and safety of the community. The license tag attached to your pet's collar shows the animal has been vaccinated against rabies, proves ownership and allows the pet to be returned to you if it gets lost.

The annual license period is January 1 through December 31.

Applications are available for download on the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Pet licensing, or at the Licensing counter located on the first floor of the Civic Plaza. Please bring a copy of your pet's rabies certificate.

If you have just moved to Bloomington or if you have just acquired a new pet, you need to apply for a license within 30 days. If you have a new kitten or puppy, you need to apply after the pet receives its first rabies shot, usually at three months of age. If your pet has a current license from another city within the state of Minnesota, you may complete a new application, surrender the other license and pay a transfer fee.

For more information, contact Licensing at 952-563-8728.



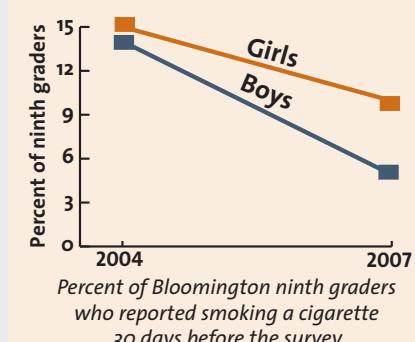
SURVEY SHEDS LIGHT ON TEEN DRUG USE

FEWER BLOOMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SMOKING



ACCORDING TO the results of a recent survey by the Minnesota Department of Education, fewer Bloomington high school students are smoking. Results show 5 percent of 9th grade boys and 10 percent of 9th grade girls reported smoking a cigarette 30 days before taking the survey. This is down from 14 percent and 15 percent for boys and girls, respectively, in 2004. See chart below.

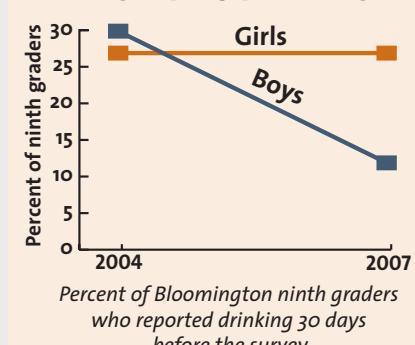
NINTH GRADERS SMOKING



Alcohol use by 9th grade boys is down 18 percent from 2004; 12 percent of 9th grade boys reported drinking alcohol within 30 days of taking the survey. There was no change in the drinking rate for 9th grade girls, with 27 percent reporting drinking alcohol within 30 days of taking the survey. See chart below.

Almost one-quarter of 12th grade boys and girls admitted to binge drinking within two weeks of taking the survey.

NINTH GRADERS DRINKING



The Minnesota Student Survey is administered every three years to students in grades 6, 9 and 12. It asks questions about tobacco, alcohol and other drug use, as well as sexual behaviors, dietary behaviors, physical activity and unintentional injuries, and violence. The survey is voluntary, confidential and anonymous.

The results are used to plan and evaluate community initiatives and prevention programming. For full survey results, visit: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/mss.

For more information, contact Youth Health Promotion Specialist Melissa Drews at 952-563-8901, or e-mail mdrews@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

CONTACT PARKS AND RECREATION AT 952-563-8877 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS.

PARKS • AND • RECREATION

KIDS, ENJOY FUN IN THE SUN SIGN UP TO GET MOVING AND SMILE!



SUMMER SPECTRUM AN ARRAY OF ACTIVITIES

BEGINNING MONDAY, JUNE 16, and spanning eight weeks, Summer Spectrum classes focus on youth entering grades K through 9. Classes and camps will be held at Oak Grove Elementary, 1300 W. 104th St., with limited bus transportation available.

The catalog, mailed to the parents of school-age children in Bloomington public schools, is also on our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Spectrum. For more information, call Parks and Recreation.



Summer Spectrum is a collaborative program of Bloomington Public Schools' Community Education, the City of Bloomington's Parks and Recreation Division, and the Bloomington Art Center.

Remember, you can now register for programs online from the comfort of home. For information, visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Program registration.

BORN AGAIN JOCKS SIGN-UP FOR THE SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE

THE BORN AGAIN JOCKS welcome all residents, 55 years and older, of all skill levels and abilities, to join the team. Games are Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting Tuesday, May 6, 8:45 a.m., at Valley View Playfield. Come anytime. Gloves are available. For more information, call Dick Wortman at 952-888-1814.

VOLLEYBALL

SUMMER SAND WOMEN'S AND CO-REC LEAGUES

A GREAT WAY to spend the beautiful summer evenings – exercise, competition and socializing – this program has it all.

When: Evenings, June 2 - August 14.
Where: Dred Scott Playfield, 10820 Blmgtn. Ferry Road.
Cost: \$260 per team, plus tax.
Deadline: May 5.

DAYTIME

ENJOY VOLLEYBALL at the Bloomington National Guard Armory, 3300 W. 98th St. Teams are formed each week.

When: 10 a.m. - noon,
When: Year-round, Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Cost: \$2 per session.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER PROGRAMS

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

Bloomington Family Aquatic Center and Bush Lake Beach open.



MONDAY, JUNE 16

Summer Spectrum classes, Summer Playground program and Arts in the Parks series begin.

MONDAY, JULY 21

Camp Kota begins.

SPLISH, SPLASH AND SWIM



BLOOMINGTON FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER

301 E. 90th Street

BLOOMINGTON FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER (BFAC) features a zero-depth entry pool, interactive play features, water slides, diving boards, sand volleyball, bathhouse and concession stand.

When: June 7 - August 17 and weekends through Labor Day.

Weekdays: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Weekends: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Cost:	Age	Daily admission	After 5 p.m.
	Under 1 year	Free	Free
	1 - 5 years	\$6	\$5
	6 - 54 years	\$8	\$6
	55+ years	\$6	\$5

Season passes

	Age	Resident	Non-resident
Child	Under 10 years	\$14	\$35
Young adult	11 - 15 years	\$24	\$45
Adult	16 - 54 years	\$44	\$66
Senior	55+ years	\$14	\$35

Season passes are available for purchase now through May 23 at the Parks and Recreation counter in Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. Purchase passes at the Aquatic Center, May 27 - June 6, 3 - 7 p.m., or during regular hours beginning June 7.

Please remember that a parent or guardian must purchase passes for children under 18 years of age and that a driver's license or state ID is required to verify residency. For more information, call 952-563-8877 or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Aquatic center.



WATER TOTS - OPEN SWIM TIME

Open swim time in the zero-depth entry area is available for children, ages 5 and younger, with an adult chaperone, 18 years or older. The program runs **June 23 - August 15**, from 8 - 10 a.m. Admission is \$4.50 per child; chaperones are free.

BUSH LAKE BEACH

9140 E. Bush Lake Road

IS THERE ANYTHING BETTER on a hot summer day than playing at the beach? A daily pass or seasonal parking permit is required for entrance to Bush Lake.

When: June 7 - August 17.

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Parking permits for Bush Lake Beach are now available for purchase. Cost for parking at Bush Lake is \$5 daily or \$27 annually (June through August). For more information, call Parks and Recreation.



SWIMMING LESSONS

Swimming lessons are offered at the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center and Bush Lake. For registration forms, call Parks and Recreation.

AR&LE

ADAPTIVE RECREATION and Learning Exchange Cooperative (AR&LE) offers opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in recreation, leisure and community education programs in Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield. To register for the programs below, call Parks and Recreation or visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Adaptive softball.

ADAPTIVE YOUTH SOFTBALL

THIS PROGRAM TEACHES basic rules and good sportsmanship in a non-threatening environment. Siblings and parents are invited to volunteer.

Who:	Boys and girls with disabilities, ages 10 - 18.
When:	Mondays, June 9 - August 4, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Where:	Haeg Park, 8301 Penn Ave. S.
Cost:	\$50, includes team shirt and photo.



ADAPTIVE ADULT CO-REC SOFTBALL

COMPETITIVE LEAGUE

COMPETITIVE SOFTBALL is for adults with disabilities who want to play in a competitive league with a strong focus on playing to win. Experience is recommended, but not required.

Who:	Adults, 19 and older.
When:	Tuesdays, June 10 - August 5, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Where:	Haeg Park, 8301 Penn Ave. S.
Cost:	\$50, includes team shirt and photo.

RECREATIONAL LEAGUE

RECREATIONAL SOFTBALL is for adults with disabilities who want to meet new friends and play softball.

Who:	Adults, 19 and older.
When:	Tuesdays, June 10 - August 5, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Where:	Haeg Park, 8301 Penn Ave. S.
Cost:	\$50, includes team shirt and photo.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

GROUP WALKING PROGRAM AIMS FOR SUCCESS

ON THE MOVE is back! On the Move is a program that encourages individuals to help each other experience the health benefits of walking. Registration for the program will begin in May.

Unlike other walking programs, On the Move groups have built-in motivation and support.

"On the Move encourages people to form groups and walk with their group regularly," said Bloomington Health Specialist Joan Bulfer. "Other people help you keep going – literally. It's peer pressure, but in a good way."

To participate, form a group of at least two individuals and register with Parks and Recreation Online Program Services. Participation is for three months, and there is no cost. Motivational tips will be provided.

The list of benefits from walking is extensive. In just 30 minutes per day, 5 - 7 days per week, most people will experience more energy, feelings of well-being, reduced stress, a stronger heart and more restful sleep.

On the Move is sponsored by Bloomington Public Health and Parks and Recreation. For more information, call Public Health at 952-563-8900.



WALK FOR SENIORS

In honor of Older Americans Month and National Senior Health and Fitness Day, Bloomington seniors are invited to take a fun walk around Normandale Lake, **Wednesday, May 28, 9 a.m.** For more information, call Jackie Doncavage 952-563-8877.

For more events for seniors, call the Human Services Help Line at 952-563-4957 V/TTY.

FOR YOUR PLEASURE AVAILABLE TO RENT

PARKS AND RECREATION MAKES summertime activities more convenient for you. Canoe racks and garden plots are available for rent. For more information, call 952-563-8877.

CANOE RACKS

When: May 1 - October 31.
Where: West Bush Lake.
Cost: \$62 + tax per season.

GARDEN PLOTS

When: May 1 - October 15.
Where: Park Avenue between 82nd and 83rd streets.
Cost: \$31 + tax per season.

HYLAND GREENS GOLF FREE CLINIC FOR WOMEN

Are you new to golf or just want to brush up on your skills? Hyland Greens Golf Course is offering a free clinic designed just for women, **Sunday, June 1, 2 p.m. and Friday, June 6, 6 p.m.** These one-hour clinics will provide a basic orientation to the game, covering rules, etiquette and terminology, in addition to offering putting tips. Complimentary use of golf clubs will be available. For more information or to register, call Hyland Greens at 952-563-886

CENTER • FOR • THE • ARTS

LOCATED IN BLOOMINGTON CIVIC PLAZA at the corner of West 98th Street and Old Shakopee Road, the Center for the Arts is a first-class facility housing eight arts organizations. For facility information, call 952-563-8889. For exhibit information and events, call 952-563-8567 or visit the City's Web site, www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Calendar.



Vase by Doug Becker.

BLOOMINGTON ART CENTER (BAC)

952-563-8587

EXHIBITIONS

Hours:	M - F	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
	Sa	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
	Su	1 - 10 p.m.

INEZ GREENBERG GALLERY

Luminosities, featuring artists Karen Gustafson and Scott Garver Glass Studio, runs **March 28 - May 2**. Artists' reception is Friday, March 28, 6 - 8 p.m.

Open Mike Poetry Night will be held **Tuesday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.** Cost is a \$3 donation.

The **32nd Annual Juried Exhibition**, featuring the Transparent Watercolor



Mother's
Day gift
ideas at
Spring Art
Sale!

Society of
America,
runs
**May 16 -
July 24.**

ATRIUM GALLERY

As
Time Goes
By, featuring
artists Lucy
Rose Fisher, Jody Stadler and Bette
Globus Goodman, runs **April 3 - May 4**.
Bloomington Public Elementary
Schools Art Show, featuring a collection
of students' work, runs **May 6 - 30**.



A Generation Goes By, by
Lucy Rose Fisher.

SCHNEIDER THEATER

For all theater tickets, call the Box Office at 952-563-8575.

BEYOND CATEGORY: THE ELLINGTON AND STRAYHORN SONGBOOK

Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn's compositions will be performed by the **Rick Carlson Trio** with vocalists Maud Hixson, Dennis Spears and Lucia Newell on **Saturday, April 12, 7:30 p.m.** Cosponsored by the Twin Cities Jazz Society. Tickets are \$19 adults; \$17 students/seniors.



The NOTE-Able singers women's choir.

MEDALIST CONCERT BAND

The Medalist Concert Band will perform **Passport to Europe** under the direction of Conductor Jerry Luckhardt on **Sunday, May 18, 4 p.m.** Tickets are \$10 adults; \$8 students/seniors in advance.

NOTE-ABLE SINGERS

The NOTE-Able Singers, the women's show choir pictured in the photo above, will perform **Don't Stop the Music**, **Thursday, May 29, 7:30 p.m.** For tickets, call 952-831-1662.



April 18 - Saturday, May 17.

SPECIAL EVENTS

SPRING ART SALE

A wide variety of pottery, mosaics and paintings by local artists will be available in the Schneider Theater Lobby. Hours are: **Thursday, April 24 - Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.** and **Sunday, April 27, 1 - 5:30 p.m.**

COMMUNITY ARTS

BLOOMINGTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA FIRE AND WATER

The Bloomington Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Joseph Schlefke, will perform **Fire and Water**, **Sunday, April 27, 3 p.m.**, St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 9201 Normandale Blvd. For tickets, call 952-563-8575.

ANGELICA CANTANTI STORIES OF THE HEART

The Angelica Cantanti Youth Choir will perform at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 9201 Normandale Blvd., **Sunday, May 4, 2:30 p.m.** For more information, visit www.angelicacantanti.org.



YOUTH CHOIR AUDITIONS

The Angelica Cantanti Youth Choir gives young choral musicians a complete musical experience. For more information, call 952-563-8572.

OUT-AND-ABOUT

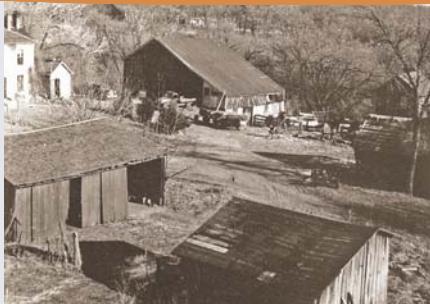


Photo courtesy of Steve St. Martin.

SUMMER OF 150TH CELEBRATION START THE SUMMER EARLY

Pond-Dakota Mission Park, on the site of the 1840s Oak Grove Mission, is one of the most significant early historical sites in the state and includes one of oldest existing houses in Minnesota. New interpretive signage will tell the story of the park and its Dakota and Missionary history. The public is encouraged to attend the formal dedication, which will feature guest speakers, guided tours of the signs, free refreshments, music and tours of the Pond House. **Sunday, April 27.** For more information, visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Pond signs.

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH CELEBRATE AT CREEKSIDE

Enjoy a Native American cultural lunch and performance by Native Pride Dancer Larry Yazzie. **Tuesday, May 6.**

JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION UPCOMING SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENTS



BRING YOUR SESQUICENTENNIAL PASSPORT to the events below and receive a stamp to acknowledge your participation. Passports are available at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, or Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Ave. S.

For the latest updates on these events, visit the City of Bloomington Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us. For more information, call Communications Administrator Janine Hill at 952-563-8819.



DAY	SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENT
April 1 - June 15	Suburban World: The Norling Photos Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul
April 27 1:30 - 4 p.m.	Summer of 150th Celebration Pond-Dakota Mission Park, 401 E. 104th St.
May 6 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Older Americans Month cultural lunch Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Ave. S.
May 10 1 - 4 p.m.	Kite Day Valley View Playfield, 9000 Portland Ave. S.
May 11 1 - 4 p.m.	150th Anniversary Celebration Old Town Hall, Penn Ave. S. and Old Shakopee Road <i>See page 1.</i>
June 7 8 a.m.	Center for Diagnostic Imaging's Back in Shape Run/Walk Northwestern Health Sciences University, 2501 W. 84th St.
June 14 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Global Celebration: An International Festival Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road

See amazing kite-flying exhibitions, Taiko drummers and dancers. **Saturday, May 10.**



150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION VISIT THE NEW OLD TOWN HALL

Dedication of Old Town Hall, costumed reenactors, historical site tours, pioneer fair, music and ice cream social. **Sunday, May 11.**

CENTER FOR DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING'S BACK IN SHAPE RUN/WALK GET ENERGIZED FOR THE SUMMER

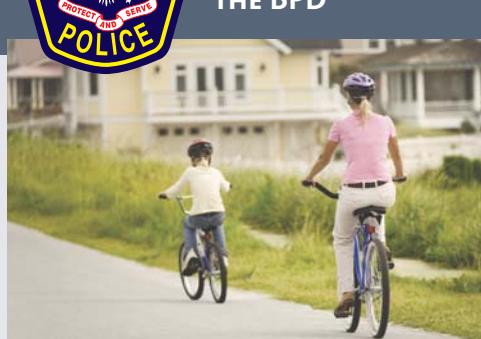
Participate in a 5K run and walk. **Saturday, June 7.**

GLOBAL CELEBRATION: AN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL FARMERS MARKET KICK-OFF EVENT

The 2008 Farmers Market begins with ethnic food and music, and arts and crafts. **Saturday, June 14.**



ON PATROL A MESSAGE FROM THE BPD



MAKE BICYCLE SAFETY A PRIORITY

AS RISING PRICES at the pump and environmental health concerns prompt more commuters to trade in four wheels for two, the BPD wants to remind residents about the importance of bicycle safety. So what are some of the rights and responsibilities of an ever-increasing bike population with whom motorists share the road? The following is a good checklist of rules to ride by:

- ✓ When bikes use the roadway, Minnesota state law defines them as vehicles, so bicyclists must follow the same laws as motorists.
- ✓ Cyclists are to ride as close to the right shoulder or curb as possible.
- ✓ Motor vehicles must be at least three feet away from bikes when passing them.
- ✓ Cyclists must obey all traffic signals, including stop signs and stop lights.
- ✓ When riding at night, cyclists must be sure to have a white light on the front of their bike and a red reflector or flashing red light to the rear.

For more information, go to www.dot.state.mn.us/bike/bikesafety.html.

SUBURBAN WORLD THE PHOTOS OF IRV NORLING

MORE THAN 10,000 IMAGES by prolific Bloomington photographer Irwin "Irv" Norling will be on display now through June 17 at the Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Blvd. W., St. Paul.

Irv Norling was Bloomington's unofficial photographer, immortalizing a wide variety of subjects, from the truly bizarre to the everyday. Norling is perhaps best known for his gritty and sometimes morbid crime-scene photos, many of which were used in Bloomington Police Department investigations. Yet he will also be remembered for his ability to capture touching and often humorous images of the regular people and places that comprised Bloomington life in the 1950s and 60s. From the ordinary (Sunday school class at St. Patrick's at left) to the extraordinary (Metropolitan Stadium construction above), Norling found a way to make every image he photographed relevant.



SHOW YOUR BLOOMINGTON SPIRIT SESQUICENTENNIAL MERCHANDISE NOW AVAILABLE

BLOOMINGTON SESQUICENTENNIAL memorabilia, including t-shirts, caps, commemorative coins and more, is available for purchase. Pick up commemorative items at the next Sesquicentennial event you attend or visit Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. To view

merchandise, visit the our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Logo items. Proceeds support Bloomington Sesquicentennial activities.



ADDITIONAL ITEMS OFFERED CITY OF BLOOMINGTON EMPLOYEES' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Collectible spoons, lapel pins, sandstone coasters, ornaments and mouse pads, featuring the Sesquicentennial logo, are available for purchase from the City of Bloomington Employees' Advisory Committee. Purchase items at select Sesquicentennial events or in the Human Resources Department at Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road. To view

merchandise, visit the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Logo items. Proceeds support the City of Bloomington Employees' Advisory Committee.

